

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Thursday, November 6, 2008, the following members were present:

Greg Jergeson, Chairman
Doug Mood, Vice Chairman
Brad Molnar, Commissioner
Robert H. Raney, Commissioner
Ken Toole, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(400) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes for the week of October 27, 2008:

Commissioner Raney moved to APPROVE the Commission Minutes for the week of October 27, 2008. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Justin Kraske, Legal Division

(401) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of D2004.7.99, D2004.12.192, D2005.6.106: NorthWestern Energy – Natural gas and electric USB investigation.

Commissioner Raney moved to EXTEND Interim Order No. 6679c until January 1, 2009. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Eric Dahlgren, Utility Division

(402) In the matter of D2008.7.88: NorthWestern Energy discussion and action on NorthWestern Energy's request for a special permit that modifies the compliance requirements of 49 CFR § 192.285(c).

Commissioner Raney moved to APPROVE NorthWestern Energy's request for a special permit that modifies the requirements of 49 CFR § 192.285(c) to allow NorthWestern Energy to requalify their personnel to each applicable plastic joining process at least once each calendar year not to exceed 15 months and direct Commission staff to forward order contained in a Notice of Commission Action approving the special permit with the staff recommended conditions to PHMSA. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Brian DeKiep, Utility Division

(403) In the matter of D2008.7.74: MDU Power Purchase Time Differentiated Rate 93.

Commissioner Raney moved to GRANT the interim approval of requested rate changes and the elimination of real levelized rates. Commissioner Toole seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Justin Kraske, Legal Division

(404) In the matter of L-08.10.1-RUL: Annual update to PSC pipeline safety rules and update to electric utility rule.

Commissioner Raney moved to APPROVE filing the rulemaking notice with any corrections with the Secretary of State for publication in the Montana Administrative Register. Commissioner Mood seconded the motion, which passed 4 to 1. Commissioner Molnar voted no.

APPEARANCE
Kate Whitney, Administrator
Utility Division

(405) In the matter of out-of-state staff travel for Steve Cameron and Brian DeKiep (workshop sponsored by the Midwest Demand Response Initiative on Dec. 8, 2008, in Chicago) and Jim Paine (CLE in Denver in December):

Commissioner Raney moved to APPROVE out of state travel for Steve Cameron, Brian DeKiep and Jim Paine. Commissioner Mood seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE
Al Brogan, Legal Division

(406) In the matter of D2008.6.69: NorthWestern Energy in the matter of the application by NorthWestern Corporation for approval of its interest in Colstrip Unit 4 as an electricity supply resource under certain terms and conditions including certain treatment of net operating losses.

Commissioner Raney moved to DENY the motion for leave to file the affidavit and to acknowledge the representations made in the motion. Commissioner Mood seconded the motion, which passed 4 to 1. Commissioner Toole voted no.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

GREG JERGSON, Chairman

DOUG MOOD, Vice Chairman

BRAD MOLNAR, Commissioner

ROBERT H. RANEY, Commissioner

KEN TOOLE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Judy Scheier
Assistant Commission Secretary

(SEAL)